#### Finnish Center Association

# FCA News



FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

January 2014

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### **DECEMBER**

- Friday Dinner 5-8 and Novi Community Concert Band 7 pm
  Meatloaf, Italian chicken, mashed potato with gravy, key west blend, salad, rolls, beef barley soup
- 22-25 Poker in Westland
- 27 Friday Closed
- 30-31 Poker in Westland

#### **JANUARY**

- 1 Wednesday Closed
- 1-2 Poker in Westland
- Sunday Suomi Koulu 12-2 pm
  Sunday Yvonne Lockwood, Finlandia Foundation Lecturer of the Year 2 pm
  Finnish American Culture and Traditions
- Friday Pasty Prep 10 am-3 pm
- 11 Saturday Pasty Bake 11 am-4 pm
- 12 Sunday Brunch 12–1:30 pm Sunday Board Meeting 1 pm Sunday General Meeting 2:30 pm
- Sunday Suomi Koulu 12-2 pm
   Marja Kaisla, Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year 2:30 pm
   Classical selections and some with ties to Finland and love for the country
- 26 Sunday Open House 1-4 pm

#### **FEBRUARY**

- 2 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12-2 pm
- 9 Sunday Brunch 12-1:30 pm
- 16 Sunday Suomi Koulu 12-2 pm Sunday Senior Housing Meeting 1 pm Sunday FCA Annual Meeting 3 pm
- Sunday Open House 1-4 pm

RESERVATIONS ARE RQUIRED ON DINNERS AND LUNCHEONS



## JANUARY IN THE GARDENS

The cold weather of January is here, however, the Garden Club members are still busy on Monday mornings. The first few Mondays of January find us unstaking and storing the holiday decorations to be utilized again next year. Then we hope that the next December we'll have fewer strands of lights to replace before putting them back out—but garage attic storage takes its toll.

Many of our existing bird houses are wearing out so we are busy building replacements to be put out in the spring. We are also considering building our own wood trellis both

for our own use and for sale at the spring flea market.



Please take note of the chains across the entrances at both the bridge and wetland walkways. Both the Trex and wood surfaces can become slick when wet so we have chained their entrances to limit access during the colder months of the year.

If you see cars at the woodshop on Monday morning, please drop by and join us in our projects or planning for next season, to chat, or have a cup of coffee.

If you have any questions or comments or items to donate please contact me at (734) 546-5190 or gaylegullen@hotmail.com

Gayle Gullen Finlandia Garden Club



#### JANAUARY PASTIES

The next pasty bake is Saturday, January 11th. Make your reservations by January 6th by signing up on the sheet in the FCA lobby, by calling the Finnish Center, or email at fca-pasties@comcast.net. All orders must be picked up on Saturday between 11 am and 4 pm. Sign up early so you don't miss out.

The cost is \$5 each, but for orders of 10 or more, you can save 10%. Here is how: email your order and phone number to fca-pasties @comcast.net by 10:00 pm on Monday, January 6. To receive the discount you must pick up your order on Saturday.

Volunteers are always needed to help with the pasty bake. Simply sign up on the sheet in the lobby or contact Paul Rajala. (Pasty-making volunteers can pick up a free pasty on Saturday).

#### **SOCIAL**

Don't forget the luncheon on-Wednesday, January 29, 2014.

The DVD "Ice Bridge: Mackinac Island's Hidden Season" will be shown



35200 W. Eight Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108 Tel: (248) 478-6939 Fax: (248) 478-5671 fcacenter@sbcglobal.net www.finnishcenter.org

#### Officers

Lois Makee, Chairman Roger Wanttaja, Vice Chairman Robert Waissi, Secretary Marlene Ruuskanen, Treasurer

#### **Board of Trustees**

1 Year Frank Gott

Frank Gottberg, Cortland Book, Lila Ball

2 Year

Carl Aebersold, Olli Lamminen, Marlene Ruuskanen

3 Year Lois Makee, Roger Wanttaja, Robert Waissi

#### Alternates

#1 Paavo Kurvi #2 Terry Ball

#### Financial Review

Eunice Gould, Hilkka Ketola, Melissa Biddix-Hill

#### **Committee Chairpersons**

Building & Grounds
Carl Aebersold
Cultural
Carl Aebersold & Hilkka Ketola
Education

Finance
Mia Lamminen
Gift Shop
Margaret Laurila
Membership
Mia Lamminen

Publicity & Publications Nancy Sannar Social

Lila Ball

## SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING CORPORATION

Paul C. Hendrickson, Chairman

Tapiola Village Laura Fultz, Manager 248 471-3802

Tapiola@ameritech.net

Freedom Square Jennifer Bridges, Manager 248 442-7250

## Finlandia Foundation Lecturer of the Year Yvonne Lockwood

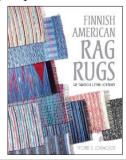


January 5
2 pm
Reception to follow
Donation: \$10

Author of Finnish American Rag Rugs: Art, Tradition and Ethnic Continuity.

Lockwood's lecture looks at the history and culture of material culture traditions in Finnish America, using illustrations from her own study of rag rugs, looms, foodways, and saunas. Material culture is made up of tangible things crafted, shaped, altered, and used across time and across space. It comes from one's hands and is shared with others in a community, reflecting one's learned ideas, and connecting persons and groups.

Material culture "tells" a story about its relationship to people, both the ones that create them and the ones who use them, and to the culture and history in which it is embedded.



#### FINNISH CENTER ELECTIONS

If you would be interested in running for a position on the Board of Trustees in February, please send your resume to the Finnish Center (FCA). Let us know your history with the FCA and what skills you have. We need members willing to give of their time and expertise to carry us forward.

As we need talent in many places, let us know if you would like to chair or co-chair one of our committees.

Please write <u>resume</u> on the outside of your envelope and mail by January 10, 2014.

## Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year Marja Kaisla

January 19 2 pm Reception to follow



Finlandia Foundation National (FFN), the premier network of Finnish-American organizations in the United States, has named pianist Marja Kaisla of Philadelphia as its Performer of the Year for 2013.

Marja began studying piano at the age of three and continued her education at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, the St. Petersburg Conservatory in Russia, with György Sebök in Switzerland and Susan Starr in Philadelphia. Her extensive classical repertoire includes the standard Western classical composers' works from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and more, including a solo program of "White Nights of the Scandinavian Composers." She also likes to perform less classical selections to audiences with ties to Finland and love for the country.

## SUNSHINE LADY

Sending get-well cards, thinking-of-you cards and words-of-encouragement cards to FCA members.

This little known function has been around for many years, and can only be accomplished when I am notified that someone needs a card. Send or call your card requests to the attention of the "Sunshine Lady" at the FCA.

Thank you, Eunice Potti Gould



#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Those interested in applying for scholarship money can find the information listed on the FCA website (www.finnishcenter.org) or can receive copies of the application at the Finnish Center.

The completed application and information must be received at the Finnish Center by March 14, 2014.



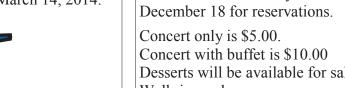
## **NOVI COMMUNITY** CONCERT BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

December 20 at 7 pm

Dinner will be served from 5-8 pm. Please call the FCA by Wednesday,

Desserts will be available for sale. Walk-ins welcome

Come join us and get into the Christmas spirit!



#### THE INDEPENDENCE DAY DINNER

Celebrating the 96th anniversary of Finland's Independence on December 6th, Chairman Ms. Lois Makee gave a warm welcome to all and read congratulations from several Finnish organizations. At this festive event, Mr. Paul Potti, Honorary Consul of Southeastern Michigan introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Philip Johnson, President of Finlandia University, who gave a fascinating speech of Finnish independence and the work of Finlandia University in preservation of the Finnish culture in the United States. We also enjoyed great musical experiences provided by Katri Ervamaa on piano and Roger Hewlett on accordion and Kris Kreiner on flute.

We definitely had a fun night that met the expectations both from the gastronomical and economic perspectives - the fundraiser had a positive impact on the FCA budget.

Thank you all who supported and donated their time, talent and funds to make this event a success, especially the handful of dedicated members including Katie Waissi, Inke Bauder, Mike Kurvi, Hilkka Ketola, Helvi Koivunen, Carl Aebersold, Eija Lyytinen-Tatseos, Marlene Ruuskanen and Mia Lamminen. Lastly, but certainly not least, I would also like to again thank everyone who joined the event and our members for their time and effort in selling tickets and organizing activities in the weeks and months before.

Anu Karin Pantsar Independence Day Dinner Coordinator

> Independence Day Art Work, 2013. Courtesy of BlackAsMoonlessNight



Dr. Philip Johnson, President of Finlandia University.



Maria Hill attends the dinner in traditional Finnish dress.

#### MEMORIALS

When making a memorial donation, you may direct it toward a specific fund.

The funds available are: FCA General Fund, Library, Scholarship, Hoijakat Folk Dancers, Drama Club, Finn Weavers, Garden Club, Soittoniekat/FinnFolk Musicians and Finnish American Singers.

If a donation is undesignated, it goes to the General Fund for expenses of the Center.

The family of the deceased may direct undesignated donations toward a specific fund (up to one year after date of death).

Please make your check out to the Finnish Center Association and send donations to: FCA, 35200 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. Donations received by the 5th of each month will be published in the next month's newsletter.

You may also direct your donation toward the Elders' Housing, but then your check must be made out to FCA Senior Housing Corp.

Please include full name (with middle initial), address, dates of death and birth of the deceased as well as the name and address of the next of kin to whom the acknowledgement card is to be mailed.

If you know of a member, parent or child of a member who has passed away, please call the FCA at (248) 478-6939.

In memory of **Ainard Liimatta** donations have been made by Lila & Terry Ball, Linda & Walter Hart

In memory of **Albin Liimatta** (4/4/13) donations have been made by Lila & Terry Ball, Linda & Walter Hart.

In memory of **Alfred Hakala** (11/25/04) a donation has been made by Viona E. Hakala.

In memory of **Elaine Liimatta** (7/3/71) donations have been made by Lila & Terry Ball, Linda & Walter Hart.

In memory of **Fred Liimatta** (10/9/59) donations have been made by Lila & Terry Ball, Linda & Walter Hart.

In memory of FCA life member **Joyce Kaiponen Juntunen** (11/18/13) donations have been made by Ellen Clisch, Larry & Donna Paulson, Marlene Houle, the Immonen Family, Ken & Patti Trout, Cheryl & Matt Heppler, Terry & Patricia Larivee, Carol Lynch, Neil Manley, C.O. Janen, Beth & Brian Kulie and Maryanne & Janice Batt.

In memory of **Mamie Liimatta** (4/4/13) donations have been made by Lila & Terry Ball, Linda & Walter Hart.

In memory of FCA life member **Robert Salo** (7/21/13) a donation has been made by Gertrude Fitzgerald.

In memory of FCA life member **Vernon Leinonen** (7/19/13) a donation has been made by Mary Leinonen.

The FCA also wishes to extend condolences to the family and friends of:

FCA life member **Joyce Juntunen** (11/18/13) FCA life member **Elna Dorffi Heliste** (12/3/13) FCA member **Esther Sulin** (12/2/13)



## E & G Heating

Heating and Cooling Service and Installation Mostly Residential (734) 812-6318 Greg Makila

#### **GOING PLACES**

Holiday Glitz in Rochester, Tuesday, December 17, \$68. We will tour the Meadow Brook Hall with all its beautiful Christmas decorations. Next we will have dinner at 4:30 pm at the Rochester Mills Beer Co. which is the former historic Western Knitting Mill. Lastly we will have a driving tour of The Big Bright Light Show in downtown Rochester. This holiday display is unlike any in the Midwest. The buildings in downtown Rochester will be covered with more than 1.5 million lights. Combo with Nardineers. Depart 1:00 pm and return about 8:30 pm.

**Zehnder's of Frankenmuth**, Thursday, January 23, \$73. Lunch will be served in the Main Dining Room, followed by the wonderful "Dueling Pianos". These two talented pianist will soon have you clapping, laughing and singing along with them. Combo with Nardineers. Depart 9:30 am and return about 5:30 pm.

Irish Tenors at the Soaring Eagle, Monday, March 17, \$38. You will receive a \$10 coin coupon and a \$5 food voucher. A free show by the talented Irish Tenors is included. To receive the casino package you must fill out a coupon which you will find on the flyer at the FCA. You must also have a valid photo ID. Combination with Nardineers. Depart 8:30 am and return about 9:30 pm.

If you leave your car at the FCA while on a trip, please park at the north end of the property. If you park near the main or lounge entrances you are using spaces needed for other functions.

Pearl Wanttaja (248) 541-0054



#### **GIFT SHOP**

Start the New Year off right by eating Maltex Hot Wheat Cereal. A natural blend of toasted wheat and malted barley syrup. A good source of fiber. Low fat and low sodium.

Special introductory price.



While you're in the Gift Shop, check out our unadvertised specials.

Thank you to all who helped at the Bazaar.

#### **NEW YEAR GREETINGS**

Ruben Nayback

Millie & Raoul Rousseau

Marlene & Timo Ruuskanen





Commercial Residential

400 E. Lincoln, Unit B Royal Oak, MI 48067 Ph: (248) 591-4172

Fax: (248) 232-0062

Owner/President cell: (248) 807-3415 timr@ruokcompany.com www.ruokcompany.com

Tim Ruokolainen



#### FROM THE FCA LIBRARY



Karelia is the beautiful forested country stretching northward from the Gulf of Finland along the Russian-Finnish border, all the way to the White Sea and Lapland in the far north.

In the early 1930's thousands of Finns from Finland and North America emigrated there, possessed with what was known as Karelian Fever. After the Finnish Civil War (1918), which followed their declaration of independence (1917), Red Finns wanted to escape persecution by the victorious Whites. Many had come to North America, and others had fled to Soviet Russia, mainly to Karelia where Dr. Edvard Gylling, a brilliant Finnish Communist, hoped to make a home for displaced Finns. The first Russian Five-Year-Plan assigned quotas which Gylling knew could not be met without skilled workers from other countries, specifically the United States and Canada. So the call went out for Finnish-speaking construction workers, loggers and fishermen to come to the workers' paradise and bring money and equipment with them.

Finnish immigrants in the U.S. were divided roughly into two groups: the church Finns and the hall Finns. The latter tended to lean to the left politically, and some were outright Communists. When recruiters hired by the Karelian government came to the halls to speak of the virtues of the Russian way of life, many were tempted to leave for this Promised Land. Furthermore, this was the height of the Depression and they saw this as a way to possibly better themselves and escape this land where they felt they were "experiencing the ruthless exploitation of capitalism."

As a result, approximately 6,000 Finns from North America (the bulk of them being from Michigan and Minnesota) and about 4,000 from Finland emigrated to Soviet Karelia in the period 1931-1934, hoping to make a new life there. (Some have estimated that there were as many as 20,000 immigrants.) Little did they know that they had come to a land whose leader would ultimately destroy many of them in the Terror of 1937-38, and beyond. The emigrants were an idealistic people, willing to work hard to establish a new society. Some simply sought adventure. Many, though, were committed political activists who were convinced that they could live out their socialist ideals of fair wages, good health care and free education only in the Soviet Union.

Life in their new land was less than ideal. Many of them lived in barracks with little privacy; they often had to wait in long queues to get whatever food was available.

During the Terror of 1937-38 the Karelian Finns saw a dramatic turn of events. Edvard Gylling himself was executed. As of July 1,1938, the Finnish language was outlawed. Finnish newspapers and the Finnish radio station were shut down. Finnish books were burned. The Karelian Finns were caught up in the holocaust that had begun in 1936 in the rest of the Soviet Union. Finns who had joined the Communist Party of the Soviet Union were arrested and executed, often victims of the quota the secret police had to meet. Many others died of starvation in labor camps. Of those who immigrated from North America, 1,346 are known to have managed to return. They didn't talk much about their life during their years away; some of them never told their descendants of their Soviet sojourn. Some remained behind in North Karelia; it was difficult to leave after the purges of 1937. Many who would have liked to return did not have the money to do so.

In *They Took My Father*, which we have in our library, Mayme Sevander tells of her and her family's (the Corgan family's) experience in Karelia during that period. Mayme was ten years old when they left America. It was a hard life, but they had expected that. But living in one room was not very easy. It wasn't long before men started disappearing, usually arrested in the middle of the night. There was no explanation. Most

(continued on page 8)



#### KIITOS

Thank you to all involved who made the Scandinavian Bazaar a success. Special thanks to all our exhibitors: Finn Weavers, Swedish Club, Swedish Passport Co., Swedish Imports, Glenna Fritz, Old World Decorative Arts, Lavender Fleece, Finnish Family Soap Products, Helen Dentone, Best Rye, Nordkap Lodge/Sons of Norway and FCA volunteers who provided great food for the visitors. Thank you also goes to all the tireless volunteers who made it all happen. Without these we could not have done it. Our bakers did a great job in filling our table for the bake sale. Our gift shop had stocked up the store with great gift items, food and candy. Special thanks also goes to FinnFolk for providing music for the occasion. Lastly, Nancy Rajala, the past chairman provided great support in organizing the event, thank you to her!

The date for next year's Bazaar is November 15, 2014. Mark your Calendars!

KIITOS! Mia Lamminen

(Library article continued from page 7)

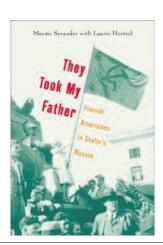
of the men they knew disappeared forever. Incidentally, in November 1939 they were told that "little Finland had attacked the Soviet Union". Mayme did not learn the truth until 50 years later.

We also have in our library a video entitled "The Survivors", stories of twenty survivors of the Russian experience. This was produced by Anita Hokkanen Middleton, whose parents, Lawrence and Sylvia Hokkanen, spent seven years in Russia. When she was growing up she did not even know about this part of her parents' lives.

The Hokkanen story is also told in *Karelia - A Finnish-American couple in Stalin's Russia, 1834-1941.* We also have this in our library.

Onnellista Uutta Vuotta!

Lillian Lehto, Librarian



(Finland Today continued from page 10)

fishing in Toivo's ice shanty on Lake Gogebic.

Heikki: Well Hilma, the guys have decided that you shouldn't come ice fishing with us again.

Hilma: And why is that?

Heikki: The guys said that you don't follow any of the "ice fishing rules".

Hilma: And what are the rules?

Heikki: Well, like, you don't drink beer, cuss or fart.

Hilma: And what else?

Heikki: Instead of playing cards, you just knit.

Hilma: Anything else?

Heikki: Looking at the floor and talking in a whisper: And you caught more fish than the three of us put together.



Lake Gogebic Walleye

Markku Ketola marketola@yahoo.com

#### FINNISH AMERICAN SINGERS MEMBER PROFILE

We don't stray far from our roots in many ways: environments, attitudes, preferences, and habits for example. Listen for similar "refrains" throughout Ilene Yanke's story, our highlighted FASM member.

Aili, Ilene's mother, was raised in Dukes, Michigan, south of Marquette. When her mother died leaving four small children, her father sent for a "mail-order bride" from Finland. Three more children were born and Ilene heard stories of how they all handled the difficult times at home. Ilene's Aunt Ellen, "mistress of her destiny," wanted to leave home at a young age. She threw her suitcase out the window to a friend, climbed out, and hopped a nearby train with her belongings. Stopping in Newberry, she persuaded her sister, Aili, to join her eventually, living in the Newberry Hotel, still in existence today. Ilene remembers many summers spent up North with her aunt, hearing her stories. Ilene's paternal grandfather emigrated from Finland, and worked at a logging camp near the Mackinac Bridge. After three years his wife and young son joined him, but logging camp life was rough and Ilene's grandmother died in childbirth with her fourth child. The grandfather moved the family to Newberry, worked at the iron company, and lived in a company home next door to his sister's family – who looked in on the children while he worked. Ilene's father grew up in a house they built there. Her parents met and stayed in Newberry. Her mother, the "livelier" of the two, was a good baker and cook, and able to help her handy husband in building their "summer home," a hunting camp in the woods. A Finnish tradition, and not extravagant, it was a location to enjoy nature. Her mother worked at the Newberry State Hospital occasionally and passed away at fifty-seven. Ilene was very close to her quiet father, who prized education, even though he only went through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. His hard work enabled her to attend The University of Michigan and become a teacher, subsequently teaching for fifteen years. Ilene shared that her father wrote her a letter every week, without fail, even when she sometimes didn't reply!

Marriage to a college beau was followed by the birth of a son and daughter and at age twenty-five, by the shocking death of her husband from an aneurism. Four years later Ilene met Bruce Yanke at church and married him! Starting out in Detroit, they lived mostly in Livonia with their busy family: his son, her two children and one they had together. A wonderful father and grandfather, Bruce spent lots of time with all of the kids.

Ilene said "He went to work every day (skilled trades, Pontiac Motors) with \$2 in his wallet and a bag lunch." Tragedy struck their family once again when Ilene's fifteen year old son passed away suddenly of an aneurism just as his father did. Ilene has tried many crafts over the years, but singing remains a particular love.

Although she sings with two other groups as well, she has been active in the FCA, serving as social chairman for eleven years, on the board for five years, and in FASM for 22 years. She now lives like she did when young, in the Finnish style: growing, cooking and eating her homegrown food, baking from scratch, even berry picking from her own bushes. Rural living provides the space and pace she enjoys, like a Finnish summer home!

Katy Koskela, Singers' Scribe



Ilene Yanke

#### FINLAND TODAY

First, here are some more surveys involving the Finns. In the annual Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) done by the Transparency International, when it comes to the public sector graft, Finland is still one of the least corrupt countries in the world. According to the CPI 2013, Finland is in a tie with Sweden in third place, behind Denmark and New Zealand, who are tied for first. Finland's CPI is down by one point over last year when it was tied with Denmark and New Zealand for first place. In the first, hopefully annual, Global Talent Competiveness Index 2013, Finland ranked 8th. The index measures a nation's competiveness based on the quality of talent it can produce, attract and retain. According to the index, the top ten countries are Switzerland, Singapore, Denmark, Sweden, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Finland, United States and Iceland. The index ranks 103 countries on 50 variables and six pillars which look at how well the countries enable, attract, grow, retain the talent as well as what are the labor/vocational and global knowledge skills.

The November 2013 "Wired" magazine lists the 100 hottest startup companies in Europe and ten of them are in Finland. Also, the same article named Helsinki as one of the "top ten startup capitals of Europe, the top ten tech cities that you need to know about." Along with Helsinki on the list are: London, Moscow, Berlin, Stockholm, Tel Aviv, Paris, Istanbul, Amsterdam, and Barcelona.

Heineken plans to move some of its beer brewing to Finland. The beer will be brewed at Hartwall's brewing facility in Lahti. "At first we plan to brew about 4-5 million liters of Heineken aimed at the Finnish market, later we will brew Heineken to the export market", says Seppo Salkoharju, Hartwall's Director On-Trade. In August 2013, Hartwall was purchased by the Danish Royal Unibrew Group, a major brewing company in Europe. Hartwall was started 1836 by Victor Hartwall PhD, who started to produce and sell hot and cold mineral waters. Among Hartwall's most popular brands are Lapin Kulta, Karjala, Aura, Urho, Foster's, Newcastle Brown Ale and Heineken beers, Jaffa and Pepsi (includes 7-Up, Mountain Dew) soft drinks, Novelle and Vichy waters, and Gatorade.

Because extreme weather phenomena such as typhoons, hurricanes, and tsunamis, have increased in recent years, demand for Finnish competence in weather forecasting and in building early warning systems is growing globally. The Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) is one of the oldest institutes in its field in the world. Says FMI's Harri Pietarila, "We are one of the leading institutes in doing development projects related to preparing for climate change and building weather-related services and early warning systems. We currently have projects underway in 58 countries." According to Pietarila, the unique nature of Finnish expertise can also be attributed to the fact that Finland is home to Vaisala, the world's leading manufacturer of weather measurement devices. "Our products and services are used to monitor, identify, and forecast weather conditions, so that authorities can properly give warnings and possibly start rescue measures," says Liisa Ahtiluoto, Vaisala's Communications Director. Vaisala's weather observation devices and solutions are used worldwide, by national meteorological institutes, by airport authorities, and by road authorities. The company exports to as many as 150 countries every year. For example, Vaisala has a contract with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (John F. Kennedy, LaGuardia, Newark, Teterboro, and Steward International airports) to provide for them Road Weather Information Systems equipment, lightening detection, weather forecasting, software and data services, and a 10-year service agreement.

For the first time ever, the Independence Day Ball, was not held in Helsinki. Instead it was held in Tampere, because the Presidential Palace is closed for renovations. About 1,700 guests were invited to attend the reception and concert at the Tampere Hall, hosted by President Sauli Niinisto, and followed by millions of Finns live on TV, including me.

And finally, Heikki, Eino, Toivo and Heikki's wife Hilma are back home after ice

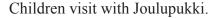
(continued on page 8)

#### PIKKUJOULU

A children's pikkujoulu celebration was held at the Finnish Center December 8, 2013. Both children and their parents enjoyed doing crafts, singing Finnish Christmas songs and especially the "talent show" organized by the children. The highlight of course was the visit by Joulupukki (Santa Claus) who brought presents for the children. Traditional Riisipuuro (rice pudding) and Finnish deserts were served. Thank you Hilkka Ketola and all the parents for making this event a success.

Ulla Crouse, Event Coordinator







Joulupukki makes his way to the children.

## **ADVERTISING RATES**

DEADLINE: DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE IS JANUARY 5TH

EDITOR CONTACT INFO: PAUL RAJALA
LAYOUT AND DESIGN: NANCY RAJALA
njrajala@comcast.net

#### FCA NEWS ADVERTISING RATES & SPECIFICATIONS

FCA News is published 11 times annually (June-July issue is combined) by and for members of Finnish Center Association. Circulation is about 1,000 of your fellow FCA members, and others, per issue.

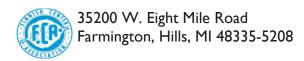
#### Deadline/payment for ad is the 5th of the month preceding publication.

Column (ad) width is 2-1/4" for rates quoted below. Other sizes quoted on request.

Rates for a camera-ready, black & white ad, per three month period:

## READ THE FCA NEWSLETTER ONLINE

#### FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION



FCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL
Date Phone
Applicant
Applicant/Spouse
Address
City State Zip code
SignatureAre you of Finnish descent?
□ Annual membership, single, one vote\$ 50.00 □ Annual membership, couple, two votes\$ 100.00 □ Annual membership, family, one vote\$ 75.00 □ Life membership, one vote\$ 600.00 □ Life membership, senior, one vote (see membership chair for details) Amount enclosed
Recommended by: Rev. 3/2013

To join or renew your FCA membership simply fill out and detach the above form and mail to: Finnish Center Association, Membership, 35200~W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108

## **GK Photos**

Glenn Kujansuu Photographer (248) 436-1276



Weddings - Reunions Parties & More gkphotos@drysteamart.com 10% Discount to FCA members

#### **FCA Senior Living**

One and two bedroom rentals Convenient, safe and affordable in highly desirable Farmington Hills, MI Contact us at: Tapiola Village (248) 471-3802 Freedom Square (248) 442-7250 www.fcaseniorhousing.org



## THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME

33603 Grand River, Farmington, MI (248) 474-4131 Paul N. Potti, Director